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AUTHOR	Ellis, E. N.
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ABSTRACT

Results of the Gates-Macginitie Reading Test for sixth graders are summarized. Tables include information for each subtest concerning mean scores, percentile ranks, grade equivalent scores, and standard scores. The level of achievement in this survey was lower than that of previous surveys. (MS)

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RESEARCH REPORT

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Department of Planning and Evaluation
Board of School Trustees
1595 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver 9, B. C.

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SURVEY OF ACHIEVEMENT IN READING IN GRADE 6 OF VANCOUVER SCHOOLS, NOVEMBER 2 - 6, 1970.

Introduction

The Gates-MacGinitie Reading Test, Survey D, Form 1M, was administered to 5,606 pupils in Grade 6 of Vancouver Schools during the week of November 2-6, 1970. The grade placement of these pupils at that time was 6.2.

The answer sheets were marked by the I. B. M. 1230 Optical Test Scoring Machine at Simon Fraser University. The scores were transferred to punch cards and processed on the Honeywell computer at the Vancouver City College, Langara Campus.

The results may be compared with those of two previous surveys. The same form of the Gates-MacGinitie, Survey D, was given to all students in Grade 6 of Vancouver schools three years ago (November 20-24, 1967). An earlier edition (Gates Reading Survey, Form 3) was administered to all students in Grade 6 in the week of April 24-28, 1961.

Summary of Results

In general, the pupils of Grade 6 performed at levels:

three months above the publisher's norm in "Speed and Accuracy".
four months above the publisher's norm in "Vocabulary", and
one month below the publisher's norm in "Comprehension".

Although the general level of achievement was about two months above the publisher's norms, it was five months below that of a survey made three years ago and approximately one year below the level of achievement on an earlier edition of the test given ten years ago. The change is most apparent in "Comprehension".

The principal findings of the survey appear in Table I.

TABLE I: SUMMARY OF RESULTS, GATES-MACGINITIE READING TEST, SURVEY D, FORM 1M, GIVEN TO 5,606 PUPILS IN GRADE 6 OF VANCOUVER SCHOOLS, NOVEMBER 2-6, 1970. (GRADE PLACEMENT 6.2)

	Speed and Accuracy	Vocabulary	Comprehension	Total Score
Possible Score	36	50	52	138
Mean Score	18.0	33.9	38.5	90.4
Mean as a %age of Possible Score	50.0%	67.8%	74.0%	65.5%
Standings on Publisher's Norms:				
Percentile Rank *	62	58	48	
Standard Score *	53	52	50	
Grade Equivalent Score	6.5	6.6	6.1	6.4

(* in terms of publisher's norms at 6.1 grade level)

Local Norms

Local norms appear in Tables II and III.

TABLE II: RAW SCORES CORRESPONDING TO SELECTED PERCENTILE LEVELS ON THE GATES-MACGINITIE READING TEST, SURVEY D, FORM 1M, ADMINISTERED TO 5,606 PUPILS IN GRADE 6, VANCOUVER SCHOOLS NOVEMBER 2 - 6, 1970.

Percentile Rank	Speed and Accuracy	Vocabulary	Comprehension	Total Score
95	29	45	50	120
90	26	43	49	114
75	21	39	46	105
60	19	36	43	97
50 (Median)	18	34	40	92
40	16	33	38	87
25	14	30	33	78
10	11	24	26	64
5	9	20	20	54

TABLE III: LETTER-GRADES (STANINES) AND CORRESPONDING RANGES OF SCORES, ON THE GATES-MACGINITIE READING TEST, SURVEY D, FORM 1M, ADMINISTERED TO 5,606 PUPILS IN GRADE 6, VANCOUVER SCHOOLS, NOVEMBER 2 - 6, 1970.

Letter Grade	(Stanine)	Speed and Accuracy	Vocabulary	Comprehension	Total Score
A	(9)	30-36	46-50	51-52	122-138
B+	(8)	27-29	43-45	49-50	114-121
B	(7)	23-26	40-42	47-48	107-113
C+	(6)	20-22	37-39	43-46	98-106
C	(5)	17-19	33-36	38-42	88- 97
C-	(4)	14-16	30-32	33-37	77- 87
D	(3)	11-13	25-29	27-32	65- 76
D-	(2)	9-10	20-24	19-26	52- 64
E	(1)	0- 8	0-19	0-18	0- 51

The results of this survey may be compared with previous ones. (See Table IV).

TABLE IV: A COMPARISON OF RESULTS ON READING SURVEYS IN GRADE 6 OF VANCOUVER SCHOOLS USING GATES-MACGINITIE READING TEST, SURVEY D AND GATES READING SURVEY, FORM 3*

Date	Number	Grade Placement	Superiority of Grade Scores over Grade Placement		
			Speed & Accuracy	Vocabulary	Comprehension
Nov. 2-6/70	5,606	6.2	+ 0.3 years	+ 0.4 yrs.	- 0.1 years
Nov. 20-24/67	5,270	6.3	+ 0.6	+ 0.9	+ 0.5
Apr. 24-28/61	5,014	6.8	+ 1.0*	+ 1.2*	+ 1.3*

(* Scores transformed by means of publisher's tables to facilitate comparison with Gates-MacGinitie results)

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